

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A signal processing system for a pointing input device for processing signals outputted from a pointing device, the pointing device comprising[[:]]:

a first serially connected circuit including a first resistance element (81a) which is changed in resistance value in response to a load applied to the device by operating an operation console in the plus direction along the x-axis,

a second resistance element (81b) which is serially connected to the first resistance element (81a) and changed in resistance value in response to a load applied to the device by operating the operation console in the minus direction along the x-axis;

a second serially connected circuit including a third resistance element (81c) which is changed in resistance value in response to a load applied to the device by operating the operation console in the plus direction along the y-axis, and

a fourth resistance element (81d) which is serially connected to the third resistance element (81c) and changed in resistance value in response to a load applied to the device by operating the operation console in the minus direction along the y-axis; said first and second serially connected circuits are connected in parallel, a shifting operation signal output terminal in the x-axis direction provided at a node (81e) between the first and second serially connected circuits (81a,81b), for fetching a voltage of the node, and a shifting operation signal output terminal in the y-axis direction provided at a node (81f) between the third and fourth serially connected circuits (81c,81d), for fetching a voltage of the node,

a detection means capable of outputting respective detection signals outputted by operating an operation console in plus and minus directions, along an x-axis and/or y-axis thereof, respectively, in such a way as to identify whether an operation is in either the plus direction or the minus direction, along the x-axis and/or y-axis, respectively, or in both the plus and minus directions, along the x-axis and/or y-axis, respectively, a first outputting means for fetching the detection signals outputted by the operation in either the plus direction or the minus

direction, along the x-axis and/or y-axis, respectively, from the detection means, and a second outputting means for fetching the detection signals outputted by the operations in both the plus and minus directions, along the x-axis and/or y-axis, respectively,

wherein the signal processing system processes the output signal of the first output means as a shifting operation signal of a pointer, and processes an output signal of the second output means as a clicking operation signal of the pointer for a pointing input device comprises a current detection circuit doubling as a regulator (71) including a constant voltage circuit (71a) and a current mirror circuit (71b,71c), for generating a reference voltage (Vreg2) from a power supply voltage (Vdd) to thereby generate voltage to be fed to a parallel node (81g), and for detecting a current flow at the parallel node by copying by the current mirror circuit (71b,71c), a resistor (85) for converting the copied current flow into a voltage, and for generating a clicking operation signal corresponding to the change in respective resistance values of the first to fourth resistance elements (81a-81d) in response to a load applied to the device by operating the pointing device in the direction along the z-axis, a first amplifier (63) for amplifying the shifting operation signal in the x-axis direction, a second amplifier (64) for amplifying the shifting operation signal in the y-axis direction, a third amplifier(65) for amplifying the clicking operation signal, switching circuits (SW14-16) for switching over among output signals of the first to third amplifiers(63-65) to thereby output the switched signal, a regulator(70) for generating a reference voltage (Vreg1) from the power supply voltage (Vdd) to thereby supply the reference voltage to the first to third amplifiers(63-65) and the switching circuits (SW14-16), and a controller(62) for executing control of switchover such that the switching circuits (SW14-16) output the output signals of the first to third amplifiers (63-65) alternately for every predetermined period.

2. - 8. (cancelled)